Nov. [illegible]

Nelle Y. McLaughlin
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## Chapter 6 - Section 1

### Description of the Liberty Church - Greenbank

Tradition has it that Patrick Bruffey sawed the lumber for the Liberty Church or donated the use of his saw mill to the building committee for the purpose of sawing the lumber for the church. The services of David Kerr were secured to construct the entire building. In that day in the history of the county, there were no planeing mills and all the work had to be done by hand. The members of the congregation and their neighbors, who were willing to donate labor to the church, were readily introduced to the jack plane. The famous white pine trees were abundant and the very best were obtained for this building. The church was built with a portico and high columns, like the colonial architecture of that day. The church is located in a large oak grove.

The outside dimensions of the church are 45x36 ft. The framing used is 4x8 in. studding, and 12x12 in. corner posts. The overhead joists are 6x10 timbers hewed full length. An assemblage of heavy timbers such as beams and king posts forms a rigid truss in the roof. All the frame work is mortised, tenoned and pinned with hard wood pins. Very few iron spikes were used in the frame worl.

The outside appearance is on the Virginia Colonial style, with four large colonial columns supporting the projecting roof. The cornice is massive, constructed of massive timbers.

The inside is arranged with the old time gallery resting on one large beam the full width of the building. This beam is eight inches thick and about twenty-four inches wide. The front rail of the gallery is panel work of boards twenty -four inches wide set between two supporting columns.

It was the custom to build these galleries for the slaves that attended church. At the present time, this one is used for Sunday School classes.

The first pulpit in the church was about four steps high and paneled all around except the entrance. About forty-five years ago the old pulpit was torn down and a more modern pulpit was built by E. M. Brown. Just a few years ago the auditorium was replastered, and refloored with fine hardwood flooring. Four Sunday School rooms and basement have been erected adjoining the old building.

The old session house that was built when the church was first built was sold to Henry Kesler after the new Sunday School rooms were built.

About the year of 1894, the Ladies Aid Society of the church employed Robert J. Brown and Robert L. Brown to build the belfry. This old church has stood for a period of ninety years and is in a fine state of preservation. It has the appearance of standing another century or more.

The deed was made to a board of Trustees on August 24, 1850 by Jane Arbogast. Trustees: William Lightner, Robert

D. McCutcheon, David W. Kerr, Paul McNeel, James Bruffey, George K. Kerr, Jacob Bible, and their successors in office. The local description of the church lot was given as being on the Huntersville road adjoining the lands of David M. Maupin, and contained 1A. and 50 poles.

This lot was originally a part of a 400 A. survey granted to Jacob Gillispie by survey bearing date on June 12, 1780.

Information: R. W. Brown
Mr. George Hannah